GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3935
ANSWERED ON:20.12.2005
UNDP REPORT 2005
Purandeswari Smt. Daggubati

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)`s Human Development Report 2005 has depicted a dark and dismal picture regarding child care and development in India ;

(b) if so, reaction of the Government thereto; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT(SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH)

(a)&(b) Yes, Sir. The Government is already aware of the facts. Reduction of IMR was included in one of the monitorable targets in the X Plan.

(c) The steps taken to improve the delivery of services under Integrated Child Development Services Scheme in the recent past include:

(i) Expansion of the Scheme from existing 5652 projects and 7.44 lakh AWCs to 6106 projects and 9.32 lakh AWCs.

(ii) Doubling of financial norms for supplementary nutrition,

(iii)Sharing of 50% cost of the States,

(iv) Effective emphasis on States to have effective convergences of nutrition, health and education services under various programmes of the Government.

The National Policy for Children lays down that the States shall provide adequate services towards children, both before and after birth and during the growing stages for their full physical, mental and social development. The National Charter for Children lays emphasis on Government`s commitment to children`s survival, health and nutrition, education, empowerment and for ensuring child friendly procedures for the special care and protection of children. A National Plan of Action has been finalized which includes strategies to be undertaken for achieving objectives to improve the situation of children in the country. Commission for Protection of Child Rights Bill 2005 has been introduced recently in the Parliament to establish a National Commission for Protection of Child Rights to deal with all issues pertaining to children.